

their base, decussate at median line; a low depressed median cushion is similarly fringed with long yellow setae.

Holotype: ♂; Wawona, Mariposa County, California, altitude 5000 feet, June 6, 1939 (A. Downes). Paratopotypes, 4 ♂♂.

Although evidently allied to both *Tipula* (*Lunatipula*) *biarmata* Doane and *T. (L.) bifalcata* Doane by the structure of the male hypopygium, the present fly is well distinguished by the lack of the nasus and in various details of structure of the male hypopygium, particularly of the inner dististyle, as the obtuse beak and the very stout, branched posterior arm. The affinities of this particular group of flies remain somewhat obscure. The presence of a third lobe or spine on the inner dististyle, additional to the apparent outer basal lobe, sets these flies off as somewhat distinct. It should be noted that within this subgroup some species have the nasus whereas in the present fly it is quite lacking.

The Status of Stål's *Oedipoda venusta*, 1861 (Orthoptera, Acrididae, Oedipodinae)

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In 1861 the Swedish orthopterist Carl Stål described an oedipodid locust from San Francisco, California as *Oedipoda venusta*.¹ This species is a well-known form of the Pacific area, which has variously been referred to the genera *Spharagemon* and *Dissosteira*, but under present concepts properly should be placed in the latter. Unfortunately eight years earlier Fieber used the combination *Oedipoda venusta* for a species then described by him from Greece,² and in consequence Stål's specific name is preoccupied and must fall. Both species have, of course, long been removed from the old blanket genus

¹ Kongl. Svenska Freg. Eugenics Resa, Zool. 5, p. 344.

² Lotos, III, p. 123, (1853).

Oedipoda, Fieber's species having been placed in *Scintharista* by Saussure in 1884, and finally in *Mioscirtus* by the same author in 1888.

The next name which is available for the Californian species is *Dissosteira pictipennis* Bruner, described from a single female said to have been taken in "California, probably in the vicinity of Indio."³ The unique type of this species in the Hebard Collection ex Bruner is now before me. The differences given by Bruner in his key to the species of *Dissosteira* in the *Biologia*, to separate *pictipennis* from Stål's *venusta*, are seen to be of no value when a series of the species from a considerable number of localities is examined. With such a representation before me it can also be stated that Bruner's assumption that the type of *pictipennis* came from the Indio area is unwarranted.

The species for which the name *pictipennis* must be used is a coastal and west slope Sierran type, and it does not occur anywhere in the Colorado or Mohave Deserts, and definitely is not found about Indio, where I have collected Orthoptera on a number of occasions between 1907 and 1937. While *pictipennis* can be found in the west slope of the San Gorgonio Pass, but a few dozen miles west of Indio, it, and a number of other Orthoptera similarly distributed, most certainly does not inhabit the pronounced Colorado Desert environment about Indio. When the relatively small type specimen of *pictipennis* is compared with a series of some hundreds of individuals from over the entire known range of the species, it is found to agree fully in a number of local characteristics, of which size is one, with material taken in the Monterey peninsula area, and from correlated and confirmatory evidence of other material similarly labelled, and taken by the same collector (Leon La Forge), I feel that general region is the one in which the type of *pictipennis* was collected. The type specimen, while faded and bleached, still shows the characteristic rose colored disk of the wings.

³ Biol. Cent.-Amer., Orth., II, pp. 162, 163, (1905).